

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. It is respectfully submitted that this Request for Reconsideration is fully responsive to the Office Action dated July 23, 2008.

Examiner Telephone Interview:

The courtesy extended by Examiner Worku during the October 15, 2008 telephone interview is gratefully appreciated. The substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

As to the Merits:

At the outset, while the Examiner has withdrawn his prior rejection of Bannai under 35 U.S.C. §102(e), the Examiner now relies on the newly cited reference of Blackett (U.S. patent application 2004/0138834) in setting forth the following rejection:

claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bannai in view of Blackett et al.

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1, 7 and 13:

Independent claim 1 calls for *a communication device comprising a display unit which displays prescribed information, an instant message generating unit which generates an instant message from the prescribed information, and a transmission unit which transmits the generated instant message to a client that can use instant message service.*

On page 3, lines 17 and 18 of the Action, the Examiner correctly acknowledges that Bannai fails to disclose or suggest the feature of independent claim 1 regarding *an instant message generating unit which generates an instant message from the prescribed information.* That is, the Examiner acknowledges that the PC 12 of Bannai fails to include an instant message generating unit, since the PC 12 merely generates a message for display and fails to generate an instant message that can be transmitted to another user using in an instant message service.

However, Applicants submit that the Bannai reference also fails to disclose the last feature of independent claim 1 regarding *a transmission unit which transmits the generated instant message to a client that can use instant message service.*

That is, the Examiner reiterates his position that the Bannai reference discloses, “a transmission unit which transmits the generated instant message to a client that can use instant message service (facsimile unit of fig 2), transmit message to client PC 12 via NCU 10 public line, using high priority service, (i.e., prescribed information, col. 3, lines 45-55+).”

However, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner is clearly mischaracterizing the features of the Bannai reference, since once the message of an urgent facsimile is received and displayed on the PC 12, the Bannai reference fails to disclose that such message is transmitted, since the PC 12 is the destination user for the displayed information.

In view of the above, Applicants believe that the Examiner's continued reliance on the Bannai reference lacks merits. In addition, while the Examiner does point out that the newly cited reference of Blackett teaches an instant message server in paragraphs [0125] through [0137], the Examiner simply fails to rely on any specific portion of the Blackett reference for teaching the feature of independent claim 1 regarding *an instant message generating unit which generates an instant message from the prescribed information*. That is, the Examiner has failed to indicate exactly the prescribed information which is used in the generation of an instant message.

As such, in view of the above, Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to establish a prima facie case of obviousness based on the teachings of Bannai and Blackett with regard to the features of independent claim 1 concerning *a communication device comprising a display unit which displays prescribed information, an instant message generating unit which generates an instant message from the prescribed information, and a transmission unit which transmits the generated instant message to a client that can use instant message service*.

Applicants further submit that such arguments are also applicable to independent claims 7 and 13 as well.

Dependent Claims 2-6, 8-12 and 13-20:

In addition, while the Examiner acknowledges, as noted above, that the Bannai reference fails to disclose the feature of independent claim 1 regarding *an instant message generating unit which generates an instant message from the prescribed information*, the Examiner continues to rely on the Bannai reference for teaching the features of dependent claims 2-6. However, as noted during said interview the Examiner's reliance on the Bannai reference for teaching these features set forth in dependent claims 2-6 is without merit since such features are drawn to the particulars of the instant message generating unit, which the Examiner acknowledges that the Bannai reference fails to disclose. Applicants believe that the position taken with regard to dependent claims 2-6 are applicable to the other dependent claims 8-12 and 14-20 as well. Further, it is submitted that during said interview, the Examiner acknowledged that the reliance on the Bannai reference for teaching the features of dependent claims 2-6, 8-12 and 13-20 was without merit.

During said interview, the features of the present claimed invention with regard to dependent claims 2, 3 and 6 were explained to the Examiner. More specifically, it was noted that Fig. 3 of the present application shows an example of a data structure in the user information database 114 of Fig. 2. A user attribute column 166 holds the attribute information of the user of

the device. Further, Fig. 4 shows an example of a data structure in the message database 128, wherein a first display contents column 152 holds contents to be displayed at the display unit 106 of Figure 1, in other words, the device screen information. A second display contents column 154 holds contents to be displayed at the IM client 16 of Figure 1. In other words, the remote screen information that is a simplification of the device screen information. A third display contents column 156 holds the remote screen information that includes detailed information. For example, when the attribute of the user of the device is the manager, the message generating unit 118 generates the remote screen information by using the information held in the third display contents column 156. When the attribute of the user of the device is the normal user, the message generating unit 118 can generate the remote screen information by using the information held in the second display contents column 154.

For example, as shown in Fig. 1, the display screen 108 of the display 106 of the communication device 100 displays first information (a), which is information indicating the status of the communication device 100 and second information (b), which is information indicating a function of the function keys of the communication device 100. The instant message generating unit 118 (Fig. 2) of the communication device 100 generates different instant messages to be displayed on the display screen 18 of the IM client 16 (Fig. 1) depending on the user attribute (see user attribute column 166 in Fig. 3), as required by claim 6 of the present application. That is, claim 6 requires *an attribute information storage unit which stores attribute*

information of the destination; wherein the instant message generating unit generates an instant message by referring to the attribute information stored in the attribute information storage unit.

For example, if the user attribute is a normal user (see user attribute column 166 in Fig. 3) based on the user login ID (see login ID column 160 in Fig. 3) then the message generating unit 118 can generate an instant message which includes only the first information (a), as shown in Fig. 1, which corresponds to the second display contents column 154 in Fig. 4. In other words, the message generating unit 118 simplifies the prescribed information of the display screen 108 to generate the instant message that is displayed on the display screen 18, for example, as required by claim 2 of the present application. That is, in claim 2 *the instant message generating unit simplifies the prescribed information to generate the instant message.*

On the other hand, if the user attribute is a manager (see user attribute column 166 in Fig. 3) based on the user login ID (see login ID column 160 in Fig. 3) then the message generating unit 118 can generate a detailed instant message by using the information held in the third display contents column 156, for example as required by claim 3 of the present application. That is, in claim 3 *the instant message generating unit generates detailed information regarding the prescribed information as the instant message.*

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It is submitted that neither Bannai nor Blackett disclose or fairly suggest the above noted features of dependent claims 2, 3 and 6. Further, it is submitted that the arguments present to claims 2, 3 and 6 are also applicable to dependent claims 8, 9, 12 and 14-17.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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